

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method of updating security configurations of a plurality of servers, comprising:
 - changing security information in a centralized server;
 - receiving an update command; and
 - downloading the changed security information to the plurality of servers in response to receiving the update command, wherein the downloaded changed security information is used to update the security configurations of the plurality of servers, and wherein the security configurations of the plurality of servers are updated by updating security parameter lists associated with at least one of files and resources associated with each of the plurality of servers.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of servers are Windows NT servers and the centralized server is a directory server.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the centralized server is a directory server and wherein changing the security information includes using an editor to change a directory listing in the centralized server.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, A method of updating security configurations of a plurality of servers, comprising:
 - changing security information in a centralized server;
 - receiving an update command; and

downloading the changed security information to the plurality of servers in response to receiving the update command, wherein the downloaded changed security information is used to update the security configurations of the plurality of servers, wherein the security configurations of the plurality of servers are updated by updating security parameter lists associated with at least one of files and resources associated with each of the plurality of servers, and wherein the security parameter lists identify authorized users or authorized groups of users of the at least one of files and resources associated with the security parameter lists.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the update command is received from a network administrator.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the update command is received at scheduled periodic times.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the update command is received from one or more of the plurality of servers.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the centralized server is a light weight directory access protocol server.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein downloading the changed security information includes filtering a directory listing stored on the centralized server to extract the changed security information.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the security configurations are updated by filtering the downloaded changed security information to extract only necessary update information for updating the security configurations and then updating the security configurations based on the extracted necessary update information.

12. (Currently amended) A security configuration update server for updating security configurations of a plurality of servers, comprising:

a controller;

a network interface coupled to the controller; and

a storage device coupled to the controller, wherein the controller, in response to receiving an update command, downloads security information stored in the storage device to the plurality of servers via the network interface, wherein the downloaded security information is used to update the security configurations of the plurality of servers, and wherein the security configuration of the plurality of servers are updated by updating security parameter lists associated with at least one of files and resources associated with each of the plurality of servers.

13. (Original) The security configuration update server of claim 12, wherein the plurality of servers are Windows NT servers and the security configuration update server is a directory server.

14. (Original) The security configuration update server of claim 12, wherein the update command includes changes to the security information.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) ~~The security configuration update server of claim 15, A~~ security configuration update server for updating security configurations of a plurality of servers, comprising:

a controller;

a network interface coupled to the controller; and

a storage device coupled to the controller, wherein the controller, in response to receiving an update command, downloads security information stored in the storage device to the plurality of servers via the network interface, wherein the downloaded security information is used to update the security configurations of the plurality of servers, wherein the security configuration of the plurality of servers are updated by

updating security parameter lists associated with at least one of files and resources associated with each of the plurality of servers, and wherein the security parameter lists identify authorized users or authorized groups of users of the at least one of files and resources associated with the security parameter lists.

17. (Original) The security configuration update server of claim 12, wherein the update command is received from a network administrator.
18. (Original) The security configuration update server of claim 12, wherein the update command is received at scheduled periodic times.
19. (Original) The security configuration update server of claim 12, wherein the update command is received from one or more of the plurality of servers.
20. (Original) The security configuration update server of claim 12, wherein the security configuration update server is a light weight directory access protocol server.
21. (Original) The security configuration update server of claim 12, wherein downloading the changed security information includes filtering a directory listing stored in the storage device to extract the changed security information.
22. (Original) The security configuration update server of claim 12, wherein the security configurations are updated by filtering the downloaded security information to extract only necessary update information for updating the security configurations and then updating the security configurations based on the extracted necessary update information.
23. (Currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for updating security configurations of a plurality of servers, comprising:
first instructions for changing security information in a centralized server;
second instructions for receiving an update command; and

third instructions for downloading the changed security information to the plurality of servers in response to receiving the update command, wherein the downloaded changed security information is used to update the security configurations of the plurality of servers, and wherein the third instructions include instructions for updating security parameter lists associated with at least one of files and resources associated with each of the plurality of servers.

24. (Original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the centralized server is a directory server and wherein the first instructions include instructions for using an editor to change a directory listing in the centralized server.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) ~~The computer program product of claim 25,~~ A computer program product in a computer readable medium for updating security configurations of a plurality of servers, comprising:

first instructions for changing security information in a centralized server;

second instructions for receiving an update command; and

third instructions for downloading the changed security information to the plurality of servers in response to receiving the update command, wherein the downloaded changed security information is used to update the security configurations of the plurality of servers, wherein the third instructions include instructions for updating security parameter lists associated with at least one of files and resources associated with each of the plurality of servers, and wherein the security parameter lists identify authorized users or authorized groups of users of the at least one of files and resources associated with the security parameter lists.

27. (Original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the update command is received from a network administrator.

28. (Original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the update command is received at scheduled periodic times.
29. (Original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the update command is received from one or more of the plurality of servers.
30. (Original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the centralized server is a light weight directory access protocol server.
31. (Original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the third instructions include instructions for filtering a directory listing stored on the centralized server to extract the changed security information.
32. (Original) A method in a data processing system for updating access information for a plurality of servers, the method comprising:
collecting changes to access information at the data processing system to form modified access information; and
responsive to a policy, transferring the modified access information to the plurality of servers, wherein the modified access information is used to update the security configurations of the plurality of servers.
33. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the policy comprises receiving a request to update the security configurations for the plurality of servers.
34. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the policy comprises periodically initiating transfer of modified access information to the plurality of servers.
35. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the policy comprises initiating the transfer of the modified access information to the plurality of servers in response to a selected event.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the selected event is a periodic event.
37. (Currently amended) A data processing system, comprising:
a centralized server; and
a plurality of servers coupled to the centralized server by at least one network,
wherein the centralized server stores security information, and wherein when the
centralized server receives an update command, the security information stored in the
centralized server is downloaded to at least one of the plurality of servers, the
downloaded security information being used by the at least one of the plurality of servers
to update the security configurations of the at least one of the plurality of servers, wherein
the security configuration of the at least one of the plurality of servers is updated by
updating a security parameter list associated with at least one of files and resources
associated with the at least one of the plurality of servers.
38. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the plurality of servers are Windows
NT servers and the centralized server is a directory server.
39. (Canceled))
40. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the security information is filtered by
the centralized server, prior to downloading the security information, to extract only
security information that has been changed.